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# MEDICAL LIBRARY NEWS NOTES

Volume 1 Iowa City, May 4, 1925 Number 2

Issued Whenever There is Something to Say
About Medical Library Affairs

There are several points to make in this little publication, but the first and most important is that the Medical Library is open for business and the staff is anxious to be of service to faculty and students. Six new tables and 12,000 books and periodicals await your coming, and the staff stand ready to assist in every way possible.

Please mention frankly any library difficulties you may have. The staff is there to help find the book or article you need; or, if it is not available here, to borrow it for you if possible. The bulletin board tells more about this --- please read it!

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There seems to be a little confusion in the minds of some regarding the relation of the University Library and the College of Medicine to the new Medical Library. For years medical books have been purchased from two funds; namely, the University Library's book fund and, to a lesser degree, from departmental funds in the College of Medicine. Books purchased by the

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Library have been catalogued, classified, and then distributed to the different medical collections according to their subject-matter.

The books purchased by the departments of the Medical College came directly to the department ordering them and were never incorporated in the University Library, being regarded practically as "departmental equipment".

It is the books originally purchased from general library funds which have recently been consolidated for convenience in administration and as a means for better service, and now form the new Medical Library of the University. Some departments have already asked that their separate departmental books be incorporated in the consolidated library and the Director of Libraries will be glad to discuss this with any others interested.

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The current numbers of the 180 periodicals for which the library subscribes (formerly kept in eight or ten places on the campus) are now together, arranged in one straight alphabetical series of pigeonholes. A list of these is posted, and a copy is available for the asking. There are several ways in which it might be a convenience to you to have this at your desk.

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Speaking of periodicals, a great many numbers are missing! Now that the medical collection is consolidated there is special need of them -- from the standpoint of the best service to all concerned. The lists which have just been sent out indicate as exactly as has been possible what has strayed away, the letter which accompanied them asks that a special search be

made for forgotten (books and) periodicals--- for anything that has a library stamp. We thank you heartily in advance for taking this trouble. It may prevent the re-purchase of material already added and enable the library to complete its periodical volumes and thus give better service.

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This brings us to the subject of rules. Interviews with several members of the Medical Faculty have revealed the fact that some do not understand that the books and periodicals in the consolidated Medical Library may be borrowed as are other books from the other university libraries. The new rules, fixed upon after careful consideration of what would be the greatest good to the greatest number of our readers, are as follows. They are similar to rules in force at other large medical libraries. It should be borne in mind that they apply more especially to students than to faculty, whose special needs will always be taken into consideration.

1. Current numbers of periodicals not loaned until one week after they are received.
2. Other unbound numbers in the library less than three months, loaned for three days.
3. Older periodical material, bound or unbound, loaned for one week.
4. Books loaned for two weeks. (To students.)

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We enclose with these News Notes, a copy of our Book Order Procedure. It comes to you now in convenient printed form, very slightly revised from the Procedure as given in Number 1 of these Notes.

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The Medical Library has recently received a generous gift of about 250 books from the private library of Dr. Van Epps.

A graduate of the class of 1882 is also sending to the library several early catalogues and announcements of the Medical School. Are there perhaps other things of the sort in the possession of any of our readers? They will be welcome additions to the small collection of matter which the library has pertaining to our own history.

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The Psychopathic department is making available for general use in the library several of its own sets.

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Look over the shelf of Recent Additions. These will be kept in a special place for a time, plainly marked, new books being added as they come in. Among the present titles are

Packard -- Guy Patin and the Medical Profession in Paris in the 17th Century

Pilcher -- A Surgical Pilgrim's Progress

Greeff---- Atlas of External Diseases of the Eye

d'Herelle- Immunity in Natural Infectious Disease

Stengel -- Text-book of Pathology (7th edition)

Flexner -- Medical Education

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Also, there is on a separate shelf, a small collection of interesting books on many subjects. They have been borrowed from the Main Library for your convenience in choosing for your week-end general reading. Browse among them, charge them out if you like, and tell us if the idea appeals to you. We expect to make this a regular feature of the library, bringing over a different set of books every so often.

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Do all your students know how to use the medical indexes? If not, send them to the librarian. She will be happy to initiate them into the bibliographical mysteries.

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The following quotation, from an article by a medical librarian in Atlanta, is offered as a good statement of the purpose and value of medical libraries to the medical student.

> "The medical school library is the storehouse of medical literature where the student may supplement the teachings of his text-books with more comprehensive treatises, where he may study the history of medicine and the lives of its makers, and where he may come in touch with the most recent experiments and advance in all branches of the medical sciences. No medical student can, without the intelligent use of the medical library, achieve the highest standards of medical knowledge and medical culture, and our colleges are realizing

more and more the value of the medical library as a factor in medical education."

--M. Myrtle Tye in The Emory Medical Review, January, 1925.

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Is not the College of Medicine of the University of Iowa perhaps an illustration of this fact?

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